

• COLORADO RIVER •
AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT



OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Vol. VII.

OCTOBER 25, 1940

No. 10



View of Lake Mathews with its Outlet Tower shown in right foreground. On November 16, Lake Mathews will be dedicated to the perpetual service of Colorado River water to the areas within the Metropolitan Water District.

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AQUEDUCT NEWS
 THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

306 WEST THIRD ST.
 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Published monthly in the interest of
 Field and Office Workers on the Colorado
 River Aqueduct, and for the information
 of all other citizens of the Metropolitan
 Water District.

Vo. VII October 25, 1940 No. 10

District Wins Court Decision in Tunnel Suit

A major legal victory was won by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California on October 15 when a decision was handed down by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit upholding the action of the Water District in ousting Wenzel and Henoch, Milwaukee contractors, from the 13-mile San Jacinto Tunnel in 1935.

The court decision was the result of an appeal by the contracting firm of a suit that it had brought against the District. The midwestern construction company had claimed that the ouster action by the District was arbitrary and erroneous, and had asked damages in excess of five million dollars.

James H. Howard, General Counsel for the District, argued the case before the appellate tribunal. It was the District's position that the finding of the Chief Engineer that the contracting firm had unreasonably and unnecessarily delayed the construction of the 13-mile San Jacinto Tunnel, a vital link on the 392-mile Metropolitan Aqueduct, was valid and enforceable. General Counsel Howard took the position that the District had acted in accordance with its contract with Wenzel and Henoch when it took possession of the tunnel construction work in February, 1935.

The contractors unsuccessfully attempted to defeat the District's position on several grounds, particularly claiming that the District itself had first breached the contract, that the ground conditions to be encountered had been misrepresented to them, and that by its contract the District was estopped to assert that the delay was unreasonable.

Sitting in Los Angeles, Judges William Denman, Clifton Mathews, and



Excavating a pipe line trench under a street in the West Los Angeles area. A part of the distributing line that will deliver water to Santa Monica.

Albert Lee Stephens of the Circuit Court of Appeals rendered a unanimous decision which upheld a judgment read on March 30, 1938, by Judge Leon R. Yankwich, of the United States District Court, sustaining the action of the Water District.

Assisting General Counsel Howard in handling the case for the District was Charles C. Cooper, Jr., of the District's

legal staff. Acting as Special Counsel with Mr. Howard was the law firm of Finlayson, Bennett and Morrow.

Final construction work on the San Jacinto Tunnel, said to be the most difficult tunnel ever to be driven, was undertaken by the District on a force account basis, and was completed by the Metropolitan Water District in the fall of 1939.

- DIRECTORY -

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

W. P. Whitsett, Chairman
 Franklin Thomas,
 Vice-Chairman
 S. H. Finley, Secretary
 Anaheim.....E. P. Haggard
 Beverly Hills.....Arthur Taylor
 Burbank.....James L. Norwood
 Compton.....Warren W. Butler
 Fullerton.....Walter Humphreys
 Glendale.....Herman Nelson
 Long Beach.....William M. Cook
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 Los Angeles.....Perry H. Greer
 Los Angeles.....Joseph Jensen
 Los Angeles.....D. W. Pontius
 Los Angeles.....John R. Richards
 Los Angeles.....Victor H. Rossetti
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Torrance.....Charles T. Rippy
 J. M. Luney, Controller
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GENERAL STAFF

General Manager and Chief
 Engineer.....F. E. Weymouth
 Asst. Chief Engineer.....Julian Hinds
 General Counsel.....James H. Howard
 Asst. General Counsel.....Arthur A. Weber
 Chief Elec. Engineer.....J. M. Gaylord
 Asst. to Gen. Mgr.....Don J. Kinsey
 Asst. Controller.....G. D. Smith
 Asst. Treasurer.....C. G. Olson
 Secy. to Gen. Mgr.....Elisabeth von Hagen

DIVISION ENGINEERS
 Distribution.....R. B. Diemer
 Transmission.....Robt. N. Allen
 Maintenance.....W. J. Neale
 Field. Supt. Pumping.....T. T. Walsh

SUPERINTENDENTS
 (Main Aqueduct Tunnels)
 San Jacinto Tunnel, District
 Force Acct., B. C. Leadbetter, Gen. Supt.
 Softening and Filtration Plant
 Griffith Company, Weymouth

Crowell Co., Project Manager
 Olen Evans, Field Supt.
Waste Water Disposal Line
 United Concrete Pipe
 Corporation
Schedule 29P
 American Concrete &
 Steel Pipe Co.
Schedule 30SC
 J. F. Shea Co., Inc.
Hollywood Tunnel
 J. F. Shea Co., Inc.
Schedule 31P
 United Concrete Pipe Corp.
 Schedules 32CI, 33CI
 Artukovich Bros.
Schedules 34P, 35P, 36P
 American Concrete & Steel
 Pipe Co.
Schedule 37SC
 Macco Construction Co.
Schedules 38SC, 39A
 Werner & Webb
Schedule 40A
 Warren Southwest, Inc.
Schedule 41P
 American Concrete & Steel
 Pipe Co.
Orange County Reservoir
 C. G. Willis & Sons, Inc., and
 Charles G. Willis.

Softening Plant Now 80 Per Cent Completed

The construction of the water softening and filtration plant is progressing so rapidly that before the next issue of the Aqueduct News the only work remaining will be the installation of equipment and final finishing. Construction is now approximately 80 per cent complete.

The administration building concrete is complete, the roof is being installed, metal partitions are nearing completion, and plastering will be started immediately. The concrete in the arcades connecting the buildings is being placed.

The head house concrete is complete to the roof, the tower structures only remaining to be constructed. Installation is under way on the carbonation equipment, air conditioning and heating units, lime feeders and slakers, other chemical feeding equipment, and conveying systems.

The No. 2 flocculator and clarifier basins and equipment are complete and the No. 1 units are nearing completion. All filter concrete has been placed, the surface wash piping installed, the vitrified clay pipe under drain system started, and installation begun on the small piping and control equipment.

The zeolite softener building is complete, the major portion of the equipment installed, the tile roof is being placed as is also the cement tile within the building, and work is started on the installation of the control equipment.

Considerable work remains to be done but the appearance of the plant now very clearly indicates how it will be when completed shortly after the first of the year.—W. W. Aultman.

Now in the hands of the printer, the District's annual reports from July 1, 1938, to July 1, 1940, are expected soon to be available for distribution. Many requests for these reports already have been received. Doubtless a number who have the History and First Annual Report will desire to add the second volume to their files.

* * *

According to reports from the office of Distribution Engineer R. B. Diemer, the J. F. Shea Company is scheduled to "hole through" the Hollywood tunnel on the Burbank-Santa Monica line about November 1. This is the forty-second tunnel to be driven on the aqueduct system.



A grader and sheep's-foot roller at work on the Orange County reservoir, which is a part of the distribution branch line that will serve Orange County cities of Fullerton, Anaheim and Santa Ana.

Lake Mathews and Memorial To Be Dedicated Saturday Afternoon, Nov. 16

Under the direction of the Public Relations Committee of the Board of Directors arrangements are being completed for the dedication of Lake Mathews and the Mathews Memorial on Saturday afternoon, November 16.

The dedication exercises will start at 2:00 p. m. and will be held at the site of the Mathews Memorial on the lookout point overlooking the lake.

Several months ago, in honor of W. B. Mathews, the District Board of Directors by resolution officially gave the name Lake Mathews to the storage reservoir on the western end of the main line of the Colorado River Aqueduct. Mr. Mathews, at the time of his death in December, 1931, was General Counsel for the District and his name was given to the reservoir in recognition of the notable services he rendered over a long period of years in advancing the Colorado River Aqueduct project and in the establishment of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

A feature of the dedication ceremony will be the unveiling of a bronze plaque bearing a bas-relief bust of Mr. Mathews. This plaque is placed in a massive granite structure. Below the Mathews plaque is a second bronze plate bearing

in relief a map of the entire aqueduct system and a detailed map of Lake Mathews. On either side of the bronze plaques are deep stone seats. The memorial structure also contains two fountains from which visitors may drink cool, filtered Colorado River Aqueduct water from the lake.

Lake Mathews is located about ten miles southwest of Riverside. The site of the memorial can be reached by way of Corona or Arlington, thence over Magnolia avenue to Taylor street and the District road which leads up to the lake.

Invitations to the dedication ceremony are being sent out by the Board of Directors to officials in the thirteen District cities and to a number of other officials and citizens who knew and were associated with Mr. Mathews during his lifetime. Because of space limitations at the memorial site it will be necessary, during the ceremony, to close the District road passing by the memorial to all automobiles except those in the official party. Ample space for automobile parking is available just below the outlet of the lake and within easy walking distance of the memorial, and persons desiring to do so may park their cars at this point and walk up to the dedication ceremony, it has been pointed out.

M. W. D. Officials Win Praise of Contractors

With members of the Board of Directors, officers and staff engineers of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California as its guests of honor, the Southern California Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America paid tribute to the efficiency and integrity of the builders of the Colorado River Aqueduct at their October Chapter meeting at the University Club in Los Angeles.

Spokesmen for the Associated General Contractors and the 213 contracting firms who have contributed to the building of the giant water supply system were President Robert V. Edwards of the Southern California Chapter, Frank J. Connolly, Manager of the Southern California Chapter, and J. Carson Agnew, Manager of Winston Bros. Company, one of the contracting firms on the aqueduct job.

The speakers for the contractors paid special tribute to the accomplishments and leadership of F. E. Weymouth, General Manager and Chief Engineer of the District. Other representatives of the District who were called upon to make responses at the meeting were Chairman W. P. Whitsett, Vice Chairman Franklin Thomas, and Director Victor H. Rossetti of the District Board of Directors, and Julian Hinds, Assistant Chief Engineer of the District.

Addressing his remarks directly to the officers and engineers of the Metropolitan Water District, President Edwards said in part:

"A great part of the vitality of the Southern California Chapter of Associated General Contractors during the past seven years has been directly attributable to the construction program of the Metropolitan Water District. In fact, that program provided considerable vitality to firms and individuals who, ten years ago, were strangers to our fair but somewhat arid land. Informed of the fact that we were to build a large aqueduct many of these eastern firms offered their services.

"In making these general and rather inclusive remarks we want to indicate and identify a few of the specific items which we believe worthy of comment. Frankly, first of all, we admire the framework, the basis of the formation and the management of this District. In this connection, we pay tribute to W. B. Mathews, who, unfortunately for all, lived only long enough to set the stage for



Among those present at the Associated General Contractors dinner meeting September 26—(seated, left to right) Frank J. Connolly, Manager A.G.C.; F. E. Weymouth, General Manager and Chief Engineer of the District; (standing, left to right) Vice Chairman Franklin Thomas, J. Carson Agnew, Chairman W. P. Whitsett, Assistant Chief Engineer Julian Hinds, Director Victor H. Rossetti, Robert V. Edwards, President of A.G.C., and Chief Electrical Engineer James M. Gaylord.

your later accomplishments. His foresight and that of other Metropolitan Water District pioneers, Mr. Whitsett, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Richards, and on down the line, long ago set up the proper framework for the efficient functioning of the District. This was years before any construction specifications were written or before a spadeful of earth was turned.

"We feel you deserve great credit for your selection of personnel. We all know that personnel is the essence, the very core of success or failure. In this case it was success. Ability was sought and ability was found. This statement applies generally to the many department heads, their subordinates and their staffs. The repressive and obstructive power of politics was missing in the set-up, though the Metropolitan Water District was a public agency, publicly owned and managed, and undoubtedly subjected to political pressure. Without being accused of seeking favors, we can now express our approval of the general manager.

"You officers and engineers of the Metropolitan Water District haven't played politics, you haven't squandered money, you haven't encroached on the domain of private enterprise, which, after all, is going to pay the bill for your work, you haven't bowed to selfish or unfair demands on the part of special

interests. You have organized a District, conceived, planned and administered a great project. In brief, you have produced. You have had a stewardship and you have executed it well."

In reviewing the new construction records established by the Metropolitan Water District and its contractors, and the beneficial influence this work has had through the entire construction field, Mr. Agnew said:

"Equipment and methods were devised by the men attracted to this great project, which resulted in progress and quality of work beyond anything known before in any of the varieties of operations that were involved. Manufacturers and suppliers of equipment and materials of all kinds caught the spirit and their efforts and skill were one of the essential factors in the results.

"Were you to travel over the aqueduct now being built by the Board of Water Supply of the City of New York, you would find a host of familiar faces. These men are using types of equipment and methods developed on your aqueduct, and their performance is beyond anything that was thought possible by those whose experience was limited to that particular locality.

"Painstaking safety measures were constantly and meticulously prosecuted.

(Continued on Page 8)

Many Jobs Now In Progress On Delivery Lines

Fourteen principal construction contracts involving a total expenditure by the District of about \$9,000,000 are now in progress for the completion of the authorized work of the District's distribution system. These involve the construction of the water softening and filtration plant; the 200 acre-foot reservoir on the Orange County feeder; and 77 miles of additional lines, including 22.7 miles of pipe and 0.7 miles of tunnels on the main from San Rafael tunnel to Santa Monica; 3.8 miles of extensions within the cities of Burbank, Compton, Long Beach and Torrance, 27.7 miles for the Orange County feeder, the 22-mile waste water line, and the Morris reservoir connection. Considered as a whole, the features now under construction to complete the distribution system are about 40 per cent completed, and the entire distribution system is about 85 per cent completed.

The present work involves facilities to make actual delivery of Colorado River water into the systems of the various member cities; and the pipe lines to a large extent are in streets through residential districts. This situation produces many more engineering and construction details and diverse problems than were encountered when the large feeder lines were being constructed through the country areas. However, with the full co-operation of the contractors and the various cities and utility agencies affected, the work is proceeding smoothly toward a very satisfactory conclusion.

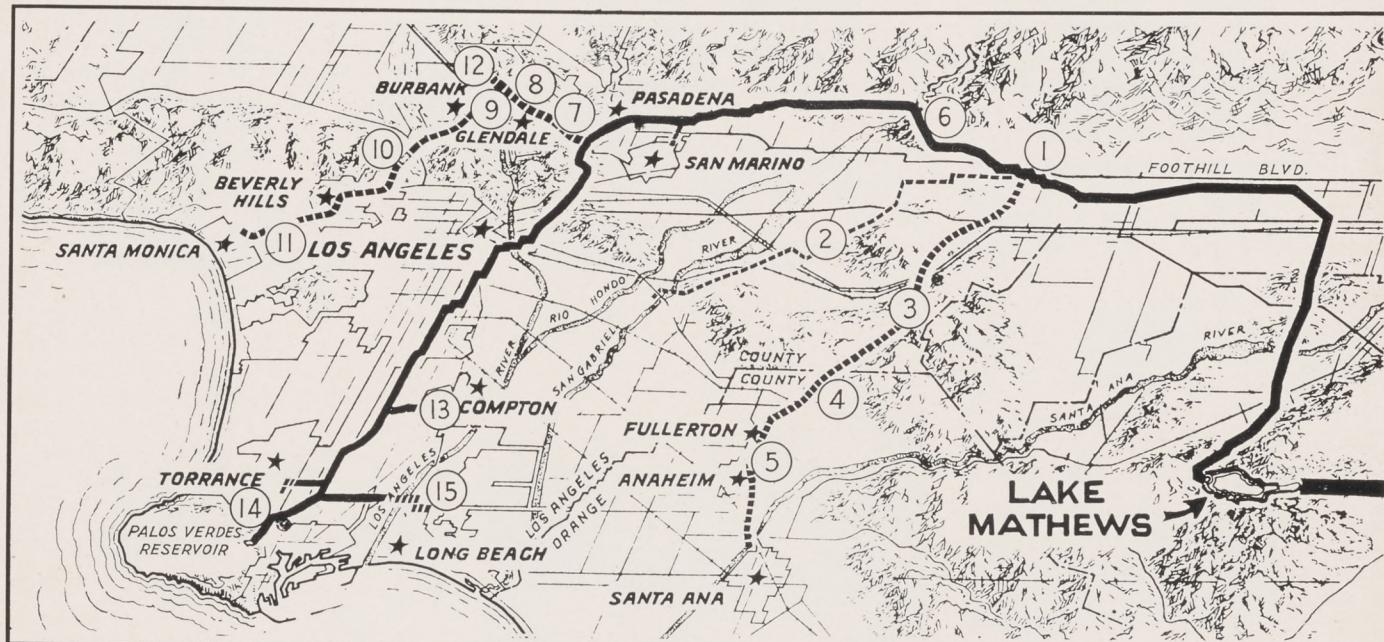
The construction of the water softening and filtration plant has progressed steadily and was about 80 per cent completed on October 19, with concrete work 94 per cent completed. Installation of equipment and appurtenances is being carried on rapidly. A 22-mile waste water line, consisting of centrifugally spun concrete pipe, is being built to transport brine from the water softening and filtration plant to a connection with the Los Angeles County Sanitation District sewer at Whittier Narrows. Seven miles of pipe had been laid on this line by October 19, and laying pro-

gress with crews at three separate locations had reached a peak of 1 1/4 miles a week.

On October 19, approximately 3 miles of precast concrete and welded steel pipe had been laid in the cities of Glendale and Burbank on the line from San Rafael tunnel to Santa Monica. Concrete pipe was being made for the portion from Burbank to Hollywood tunnel; and the laying of cast-iron pipe from Hollywood tunnel to Santa Monica was started October 17. Rapid progress is expected on all of this work during the next few months. The driving of the Hollywood tunnel in the hills south of Cahuenga Boulevard was 85 per cent completed by the 19th of October, and preparations were being made by the contractor to start the concrete lining of the tunnel immediately upon completion of the excavation.

The lateral extension within the city of Compton was 70 per cent completed by October 19, and the Torrance extension was 25 per cent completed. These lines are being constructed with asbestos cement pipe, which is similar to concrete pipe except that asbestos fiber binder is added to the concrete and the pipe is

(Continued on Page 8)



Distribution system map indicating location of construction work in progress.

Name of contracting firm on each job is given in list below.

(1) Water Softening and Filtration Plant Griffith Company	(6) Morris Reservoir Connection C. M. Elliott and Stroud-Seabrook	(11) Schedules 32CI and 33CI Artukovich Bros.
(2) Waste Water Line United Concrete Pipe Corp.		
(3) Northerly Portion, Orange County Feeder American Concrete & Steel Pipe Co.		
(4) Orange County Reservoir C. G. Willis and Sons and Charles G. Willis		
(5) Southerly Portion, Orange County Feeder Macco Construction Co.		
San Rafael Tunnel to Santa Monica Line, including:		
(7) Schedule 29P American Concrete & Steel Pipe Co.		
(8) Schedule 30SC J. F. Shea Co., Inc.		
(9) Schedule 31P United Concrete Pipe Corp.		
(10) Hollywood Tunnel J. F. Shea Co., Inc.		
Lateral Extensions for Member Cities		
(12) Burbank Lateral Werner and Webb		
(13) Compton Lateral Werner and Webb		
(14) Torrance Lateral Warren Southwest Inc.		
(15) Long Beach Lateral American Concrete & Steel Pipe Co.		

MONTHLY REPORT REVIEWS ACTIVITIES ALONG THE AQUEDUCT LINE

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a brief summary of some of the activities of the District as set forth in the monthly report of General Manager F. E. Weymouth, filed with the Board of Directors in October, covering work done in September).

Legal Division

All necessary documents to secure payment for Interim Certificate 102, in the denomination of \$756,000, representing bonds heretofore sold to the R. F. C., were prepared. Payment for said certificate was made September 30.

Miscellaneous Activities Division

During the month of September, 1940, 324 labor employment applicants were cleared for work on the aqueduct. Of this number, 8 were made available for force account work and 316 were made available for aqueduct contractors. Identification certificates were issued to 179 applicants. The net turnover for all positions for August was 4.50 per cent as compared with 0.68 per cent for the same month in 1939.

Main Aqueduct

Salvage Division—Stock appraised and transferred to the Banning salvage yard during September amounted to \$1,526.64, making a total to date of \$2,362,495.95. Sales during September amounted to \$14,732.24. Total of salvage disbursements to date amounts to \$1,462,281.10.

Parker Dam Power Plant—The Bureau of Reclamation construction forces completed the placing of concrete in a 10-foot lift of the power house substructure walls. Except for minor trimming of rock excavations, the contractor completed all work for excavation of penstock tunnels, forebay, and upper portion of power house foundation. Erection of plant for fabrication of the penstocks was started.

Electrical Engineering Division

Pumping Plants—The pumping plants were operated on a three-shift construction schedule during the month to supply water for testing and conditioning aqueduct structures.

Construction—Work was continued on the installation of the electrically operated main entrance gates at Iron Mountain, Eagle Mountain, and Hayfield, and construction of the telephone line between Lake Mathews and the water softening and filtration plant at La Verne was started.

Civil Engineering Division

Design—Structure and pipe drawings of the Morris Reservoir connection were revised as required and drawings of mis-

cellaneous metal work were prepared. For the Orange County feeder, Santa Monica feeder, and lateral extensions to member cities, structure designs were revised to conform to adopted types of pipe and valves. Wiring diagrams for electric equipment installation and mechanical designs of activated carbon dust filters were prepared for the water softening plant. Detail drawings and design in connection with the Mathews memorial at Lake Mathews were completed.

Specifications—Eight sets of specifications were completed during the month, and bids were opened and recommendation for awards made on seven sets of specifications, including No. 341 for the Orange County Reservoir, and No. 342 for the Long Beach lateral extension.

Hydrography—Meetings of the Colorado River Commission of California were attended for discussion of Tri-State Compact problems.

Distribution Division

Field and Office Engineering—All field work was in connection with construction operations in progress. Further studies and estimates were made of the location and cost of the proposed extension of the Orange County feeder. Construction of the Mathews memorial and landscaping of the site near the west end of Lake Mathews dike were in progress.

Contract Work—At the softening and filtration plant, construction work was continued through the month. On the Santa Monica feeder, Chevy Chase Boulevard and the Sycamore Canyon storm drain were crossed on Schedule 29P; good progress was made on Schedule 30SC and Hollywood Tunnel; the Cahuenga Freeway crossing was finished; and on September 16 work started at the Santa Monica delivery structure. Work was started on the Compton extension on September 25, and on the same day work was begun on the Long Beach extension, with excavation, to handle the flow of the Los Angeles River.

Purchasing Division

A total of 280 purchase orders were issued during September covering purchases amounting to approximately \$69,000. Carload forwarding totaled 39, of which 35 were cement.



We must take care of our own.

Help Your Own Is Community Chest Appeal

Determined to duplicate last year's "100 per cent plus" record the Metropolitan Water District Employees Community Chest Committee will begin its 1941 drive with a general meeting of the Los Angeles office employees on October 31, 1940. At this meeting a representative of the Community Chest will discuss the functions and operations of the Chest.

Pledge cards and literature will be distributed immediately after the meeting and all employees are urged to get their pledges in early. The completion date for the District's campaign has been set for November 19.

This year's committee is headed by General Manager F. E. Weymouth, who is also a member of the general Community Chest Campaign Council. Also serving on the District's Community Chest Committee, with full military titles, are Colonels Don J. Kinsey and J. M. Luney and Majors L. V. Branch, C. J. Brandt, R. B. Diemer, J. M. Gaylord, S. A. Joseph, A. W. McKinlay, B. C. Leadbetter, Alan Patten, and T. T. Walsh.

The Los Angeles Community Chest collects for 88 agencies located throughout the District cities and any employee, simply by indicating on his pledge card, is assured that his donation will be used in his home city.

Remember we must take care of our own.

Accounting and Costkeeping

The total cost of the work accomplished to September 30, 1940, was \$185,982,118.93.

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE



E. F. Miller, better known as "Ed" and as Assistant to Purchasing Agent Saul Joseph for the past number of years, recently resigned from his position with the District to take the job of Purchasing Agent for Bechtel-McCone-Parsons Corp., with headquarters in Orange, Texas. From paper clips to locomotives, if anybody has any, Ed knows where to find them and how to buy them at the closest figure.

A good share of aqueducts and former M. W. D.'ers are migrating to the Hawaiian Islands and other minute points of land sticking out of the Pacific Ocean. It isn't the vacation urge; it's jobs helping Uncle Sam's Navy build docks, fortifications, landing fields and such. Past issues of the NEWS have listed a number of former District employees who have scattered out across the broad expanse of the Pacific. Here are a few more.

Douglas K. Fagg. "Doug" entered the District's service in 1933 as a field clerk. From December, 1936, until October 18 this year, he was clerk supervisor in the Electrical-Mechanical Division. On the latter date he boarded an ocean liner and headed west to take a job as field clerk in the Pearl Harbor office of the contracting firms engaged in heavy Naval construction work.

Fred Carleton. Another old timer on the aqueduct job. Joining up with the M. W. D. in July, 1933, Fred was clerk at Berdoo Camp on the Coachella tunnels until April, 1937, when he moved to the Banning field headquarters. He left the District early this year. The other day he took a job as Chief Clerk on a Navy oil storage project at Pearl Harbor.

Roy Scrivner. Those who were with the District in the days 'way back there before the bond issue was voted will re-

Aqueduct Temperatures September 16 to October 16, 1940

	Max.	Min.
Gene Pumping Plant	104°	60°
Iron Mt. Pump. Plant.	100°	60°
Eagle Mt. Pump. Plant	101°	59°
Banning	94°	44°
Lake Mathews	95°	50°

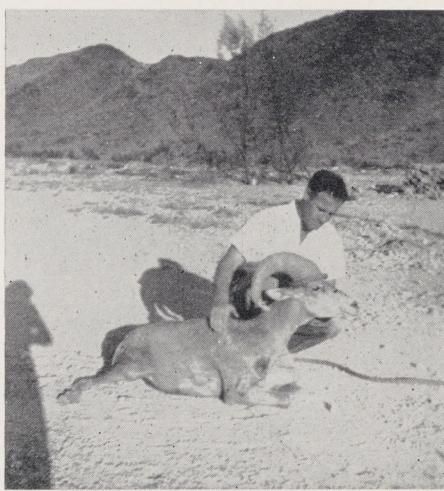
member Roy. In the months preceding the bond election, Roy worked out of the Public Information office. For the past several years he has been engaged in the management of restaurants in Los Angeles. He's now handling the purchasing of commissary goods in one of the Navy construction camps out of Honolulu.

* * *

When an M. W. D. aqueducker wants a mascot he doesn't fool around with the common tin can eating, domestic variety. He gets himself a wild mountain sheep. There's the case of Aqueduct Patrolman John Powell who during an inspection tour recently discovered a large, long-horned, cliff-climbing sheep in a canal sand trap near the Eagle Mountain pumping plant.

It appears that the sheep was looking for a drink of water. He had leaped over the six-foot wire fence along the sand trap and had slipped down the steep concrete side. The creature was rescued from the canal and was found to have sustained no serious injuries. During the rescue work the wool bearing hill climber was quite docile.

As soon as it was ascertained that the m. s. was sound of wind and limb he was released to return to his mountain haunts.



Foreman Bill Richardson at Eagle Mountain Pumping Plant and the sheep who knew where to go when he wanted a drink of water.



Captain Lynn Davis Smith, who has turned in for the duration of the emergency his editorial eyeshade and now wears the stiff visor of the Army cap.

Captain Lynn Davis Smith, editor of the Aqueduct News for the past four years, has answered the call to the colors and is now on extended and active duty in the United States Army.

Smith reported for military duty on October 21 and is now Unit Instructor assigned to the Headquarters of the Southern California Military District located in the Federal Building in Los Angeles. He has been in the United States Army Reserves for more than ten years, and during that time advanced to the rank of Captain.

Entering the employ of the District in February, 1933, Smith engaged in work in the office of the Distribution Engineer until August, 1936. At that time he transferred to the Miscellaneous Activities Division. In addition to his duties as editor of the News, Smith prepared written material for the press and magazines, engaged in the production of educational motion pictures and radio programs for the District, and represented the District in speaking before civic, service and commercial organizations and in educational institutions.

Captain Smith is the first member of the District's headquarters personnel to enter active military service in the course of the present national defense program. In accordance with District regulations he was granted leave of absence during the period of his military service.

Contractors

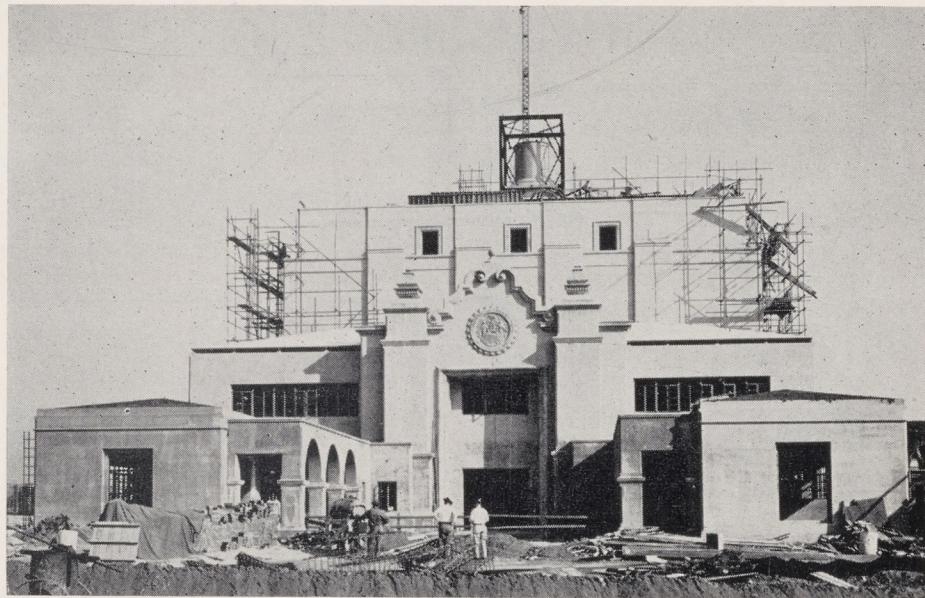
(Continued from Page 4)

The magnitude of this branch of the undertaking may be visualized when we realize that approximately 38,000 individuals worked directly on this project over a period of about seven years; and that for approximately two of these years 10,000 men were constantly on the payrolls. About \$180,000,000 were spent and despite the hazards inherent in much of this total volume of work, the fatal accident frequency was less than 50% of that customary in heavy construction activity."

Expressing the praise of the contractors generally for the efficient and capable manner in which the officers of the Metropolitan Water District have conducted their public business, Mr. Connolly said:

"Your Board of Directors, as a policy-making board, has been comprised of a cross section of the finest public-spirited citizens in Southern California. As Directors, you have established sound policies, good management, economical administration, and, probably most important of all, you have administered a huge political enterprise, and still kept it out of politics.

"Your management and engineering staffs have set new high records in public service. Headed by one of the greatest construction engineers and administrators of the nation, Mr. Frank E. Weymouth, you were bound to succeed."



Administration building and headhouse, central portion of District's softening and filtration plant. As this photo reveals, concrete work on the big plant is now nearly completed.

Distribution

(Continued from Page 5)

formed under pressure, producing a relatively high tensile strength without the use of steel reinforcement. Field joints have a cement asbestos collar, with a rubber sealing ring between the collar and each end of the pipes at the joint. Construction of the crossing at the Los Angeles River has been started on the

Long Beach extension and the fabrication of precast concrete pipe for the extension is in progress at the contractor's plant.

Fabrication of precast concrete pipe for the northerly 18.9 miles of the Orange County feeder, and steel pipe for the southerly 8.8 miles is in progress at the plants of the contractors and subcontractors, and the laying of pipe on this line is now being started. Earthwork operations for the Orange County reservoir were begun on September 30. Earth is being removed from the bottom and sides of the canyon in which the reservoir is situated, and is being placed and compacted in the main embankment which will close the basin. By October 19, 35,000 cubic yards of earth, or 11 per cent of the total required, had been excavated and placed in the embankment.

The contractor on the Morris Reservoir connection has completed a large part of the trench required and is starting to lay the 80-inch steel pipe. In addition to 500 feet of 80-inch steel pipe and 50 feet of 120-inch steel pipe, this feature includes the construction of metering and valve structures necessary in utilizing the Morris Reservoir.

Employment on the distribution system contract operation has increased rapidly during the past few months. On June 1 there were only 300 men working for the contractors and the District on distribution system features; while by October 15 more than 1200 men were employed. These figures include the men working in the pipe fabrication plants.—R. G. Palstine.



View of construction crew installing 30-inch pipe across and under the Los Angeles River at 223rd Street. A section of the distributing line serving Long Beach.